

THE BEAT

Howard County Fire & Police Expo, Oct. 2



The Howard County Departments of Fire & Rescue and Police will host the second annual *Howard County Fire and Police Expo* on Sun., Oct. 2 in Columbia.

The day will include demonstrations and displays, including exhibits of fire and police equipment and emergency vehicles, such as cars, trucks, bicycles, antiques and the police helicopter.

Public safety officials will conduct demos of police K-9s, firefighting in action and the effects of drunk driving.

The event also will include activities for children, including face painting, a moon bounce and visits from McGruff the Crime Dog and Sparky the Fire Dog.

Public safety organizations and others will exhibit information booths with giveaways and souvenirs.

"This event is a great way to give our citizens an inside look at the work police officers, firefighters and paramedics do everyday," said Police Chief G. Wayne Livesay. "We are grateful that the community joins us each year to help us celebrate public service."

This year, for the first time, the event will be sponsored by Apple Ford and will include a classic car show. As the sponsor, Apple Ford will make a generous donation to the Howard County Police Foundation.

The event will be held at the lakefront near Lake Kittamaquundi from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

The fire and police departments and Apple Ford invite Howard County citizens to come enjoy a day of family fun! *By Sherry Llewellyn*



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Howard County Department of Police *Mission Statement*

It is the mission of the Howard County Department of Police to provide a sense of security for the people by protecting life and property, reducing the opportunity for crime and disorder, enforcing the law, assisting victims and providing other police-related services as required by the community in a manner consistent with the values of a free society. The Department embraces the tradition that the police are the public and the public are the police-the police being members of the public who devote full-time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen.

Message from the Chief by Police Chief G. Wayne Livesay

A few years ago, we made the decision to move away from a commercial wireless data communications carrier. At that time, the technology offered to us was not any better than what we were able to build on our own.

But times have changed. With current changes and upgrades in technology, it appears that now is the time to return to commercial wireless to ensure our future needs will be met.

The goal of our technology program is to be able to supply information to our officers efficiently and make the Mobil Data Computers (MDCs) as useful as possible. I want all officers to be able to access the Internet and e-mail accounts from their vehicles. I also want us to be able to transmit reports electronically and disseminate digital photos of suspects, missing persons, runaways and crime scenes to one another.

A major issue with our current in-house 800mhz system is that the amount of data being transferred has outgrown the capabilities of the system. It would be impossible to increase the amount of information be

ing sent to our MDCs without a major upgrade in the service.

In future years, we would have to continually upgrade the system as technology grows, which would not be cost effective for the agency. Commercial wireless carriers are responsible for the continuous maintenance of their own networks.

For the past several months, we have been in discussions about going back to a commercially supported system. Now that the decision has been finalized, I have made this changeover a top priority for the department. Fortunately, the new system will work with the equipment already installed in our vehicles.

We also are looking at software that will enable us to use the 800mhz system as a backup system in the event of a major catastrophe. This software will automatically switch the MDC from commercial wireless to 800mhz without any user input.

This changeover is an extremely important step in the continuous advancement of technology for the department. I am hopeful that this transition will be as smooth as possible for everyone.

Target Awards Local Grant to HCPD

In a nationwide commitment to give over \$2 million a week to non-profit organizations, Target recently awarded the Howard County Police Department with a \$1,000 local law enforcement grant.

On July 19, Dave Nowowieski, of Target Stores, presented the grant money to Chief Wayne Livesay at police headquarters. Representatives from Target in Columbia and Ellicott City were present and expressed their gratitude to HCPD members for their service to the community.

The grant will be used to purchase a new, fully-equipped police bicycle, as well as bicycle helmets for children who could not otherwise afford them.

The program is designed to promote safety and build community relationships with the police department.

By PFC David Proulx



Chief Livesay receives a check from Dave Nowowieski of Target for a new patrol bike and child safety helmets.

Bear Trax Camps Offer Fun and Learning

The Howard County Police Department hosted its annual Bear Trax day and overnight camps in July for children who are considered in need of positive mentors. The camps are designed to enhance relationships between police officers and kids in the community.

Campers participated in team-building and confidence exercises, as well as field trips to Hershey Park and Cascade Lake in Hampstead. Chief Wayne Livesay hosted an event for the campers July 27 that included police demonstrations by the K-9 unit, tactical team and helicopter.

Nominations for children to participate in Bear Trax programs come from many sources, including police officers and school administrators. Children nominated are those who could most benefit from support, encouragement

and constructive, organized activities during the summer months. The police-youth program also hosts a holiday party in December for children in the community.

Campers enjoy some time out on the water learning to sail.



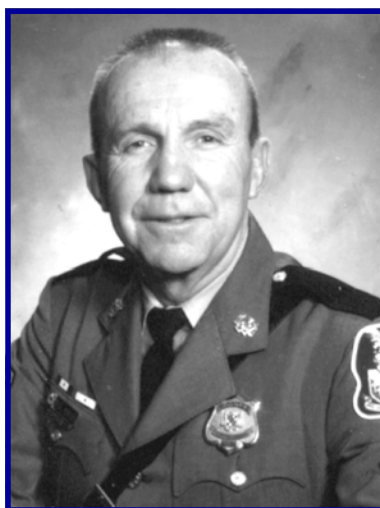
Sgt. Matt Robine teaches Bear Trax campers about the Armored Patrol Car.

All camp counselors are police officers, civilian police employees and police department volunteers. *By Sherry Llewellyn*

PFC Vogel Receives Award, Saves Life

PFC Vogel was recently awarded the American Legion Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award for the State of Maryland at a ceremony in Ocean City. Chief Livesay attended the event where Vogel was also named American Legion's regional winner. PFC Vogel joins ranks among HCPD's previous American Legion winners, including PFC Patrick Eckley and Cpl. Tim Wiley.

PFC Vogel's everyday actions reflect how deserving he is of the awards he has won. In one recent outstanding case, PFC Vogel was credited with saving a young girl's life. What began as just another day on the job for PFC Vogel turned out to be a very lucky day for a Sykesville girl



PFC Bill Vogel's dedication to the job not only landed him a state and regional award, but also saved a local girl's life.

and her family on July 7. When PFC Vogel was dispatched to a reported suicide, he didn't know what to expect when he got there. He had received reports that the victim may already be dead and knew that there were family members on the scene who would be hysterical. But when Officer Vogel arrived, he found that the victim, although in cardiac arrest, may still have a chance to live. Officer Vogel cut the victim from the tree where she had tried to hang herself and performed CPR until paramedics arrived. The victim had a heartbeat by the time she was transported to the hospital.

Congratulations for a job well done!
By PFC Jennifer Reidy

Howard County Police Officer of the Month



PFC Scott Wheeler
April 2005

Congratulations to PFC Scott Wheeler on his selection as Officer of the Month for April 2005. Chief Livesay selected PFC Wheeler because of his rigorous efforts in traffic enforcement and the Chiefs' Challenge, his willingness to assist the department with special assignments off-duty and for his closure of several criminal cases throughout the month.

PFC Wheeler is recognized for his tremendous efforts in traffic enforcement. He made 187 traffic contacts during the month of April, 68 of which were seatbelt violations, making him the leader of Platoon 3 in the Chiefs' Challenge. PFC Wheeler also volunteered to work off-duty throughout the month to assist the traffic enforcement section in their aggressive driving/speed enforcement efforts.

PFC Wheeler's efforts demonstrate the important connection between routine traffic violations and more serious violations. Through his radar enforcement and other methods of detecting traffic violations, he arrested six people for driving under the influence of alcohol, which may have prevented collisions and injuries.

PFC Wheeler also is recognized for closing several criminal cases during the month. After receiving suspect vehicle information in a hit and run incident, he was able to determine that a relative of the vehicle's owner was the driver. As a result, the relative was appropriately charged.

In another case, PFC Wheeler assisted with two located runaways with whom he has had prior contact. He was able to determine that one of the juveniles was in possession of stolen property. PFC Wheeler located the owner of the stolen item and charged the juvenile with the theft.

Congratulations to PFC Wheeler on a month of outstanding work! *By PFC Jennifer Reidy*

HCPD Welcomes New Recruit Class

The Howard County Police Department welcomed 17 new officers into the HCPD family during a graduation ceremony held on July 26 at River Hill High School. Academy class #26 began their 27 weeks of training in September and recently completed their required 14 weeks of field training.

Chief Wayne Livesay presented the new officers with their badges at the ceremony, which was attended by HCPD members and their friends and families. It was also attended by representatives of the Maryland Police Training Commission and Westminster and Gaithersburg Police Departments, who each had two new officers graduate with the HCPD class.

Several awards were presented to graduating members of Academy 26. Russell Burris was presented with the "Top Overall Recruit" and "Top Shot" Awards, Angela Minihan was presented with the "Overall Academic Achievement" Award, Tyrone Cole was presented with the "Outstanding Leadership" Award, and Erik Reid was presented with the "Overall Physical Fitness" Award.

Special thanks go to the Education and Training Staff and the 33 Field Training Officers who helped these recruits make it through their training. New members include: **Nicole Anderson, Russell Burris, Tyrone Cole, Raymond Conner, Jason Eskra, Shawn Germain, Sarah Kayser, Joshua LaPier, Matthew Mergenthaler, Jason Morrill, Wanda Miller, Erik Reid, Jason Scites, Rafeh Shams, Raymond Trodden, Thomas Trodden, and James Zamillo.** From Gaithersburg PD, **Brian Hurtt and Daniel Lane.** From Westminster PD, **Stephen Arnold and Angela Minahan-Anderson.** Congratulations to our new officers and welcome to the HCPD family. *By PFC David Proulx*

Auxiliary Statistics

The Howard County Police Department's auxiliary officers have been working hard during the first half of 2005. Involving themselves in everything from tagging abandoned vehicles to responding to medical assist calls, they have volunteered countless hours to help the police department and the citizens of Howard County. From January to June 2005, they helped police with the following functions:

Total Hours Worked:	3524
Abandoned Vehicle Check/Tag/Tow:	1610
Accident/Criminal Insights:	147
Administrative Support:	95
Animal Complaints:	5
Area Checks:	2406
Assist Officers:	229
DWI Checkpoints:	1
Foot Patrols:	112
Home Security Surveys:	11
Lockouts:	12
Medical Assists:	8
Motorist Assists:	442
Other Activities:	31
Parking Complaints/Citations:	650
Property Recovery/Storage:	135
Radar Surveys:	68
Relays or Courier Service:	79
Reports Written:	279
School Crossing Guard:	137
Searches for Missing Persons:	6
Senior Citizen Area Checks:	1047
Special Events:	48
Traffic Direction:	190
Traffic or Road Hazards:	323



Auxiliary Officer Herb Michaels issues a parking citation to an illegally parked vehicle.

Auxiliaries dedicate countless hours to the police department and the community every month.

HCPD Participates in Explorers Academy

During the week of July 10-16, eight members of HCPD's Explorer Post 1952 participated in a youth law enforcement academy. The explorers who attended, Paul Bertulis, Tommy Cole, Charles Johnson, Joe Ourand, Ivette Maldonado, Mike Sullivan, Cory Wesselman and Will Harris, traveled to Rockwood Manor Park in Potomac, Md., and joined explorers from nine neighboring jurisdictions to participate in the academy.

Potomac Boundaries Advisors Association (PBAA), an organization comprised of police officers from law enforcement agencies



throughout the region, created the academy with the goal of making it as realistic and reflective of a real police academy as possible. The 78 explorers participated in daily morning physical training and drill and ceremony exercises. The rest of their days were filled with classes on basic police tactics, domestic crisis intervention, traffic stops, emergency field first aid and crime prevention, followed by practical exercises that allowed them to put their newly learned skills to the test.

Explorers were also given in-class instruction on firearms and participated in a shoot/don't shoot exercise on a dynamic police shooting simulator. When they weren't in the classroom, practicing traffic stops or responding to a "call" for domestic assault, they were on Fairfax County Police Department's skid pan and cone course, learning how to safely drive a police car.

Explorers were also reminded of the honor and risk associated with being a police officer during two trips they took to Arlington and Washington, D.C. The explorers saw the Marine Corps silent drill team's sunset review at Iwo Jima and honored those who died at the Fallen Officers and WWII memorials.

By PFC Jennifer Reidy

HCPD *FIT*: Free Vision Screening, Aug. 24



Are you seeing 20/20 or are you still holding onto that 2-year-old pair of glasses? Your sight is one of the most important things to keep in check—especially if you are a police officer.

HCPD*FIT* will be hosting a free vision screening and information workshop on Wed., Aug. 24 for all employees. The screening will take place at the Northern District community room and specialists from Vision Care International will be available from 7:30 - 11:30 a.m. to conduct the screening and answer any questions. *Submitted by PFC Victor Selvaggi*

Auto Theft Unit Receives \$115,000 Grant

The police department's Auto Theft Unit recently received a \$115,000 grant from the State of Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council. The money will go to support the Auto Theft Unit and its programs, including the VIN Etching and "Watch Your Car" programs. HCPD has been receiving grants from the Council for the past 11 years, although this year the department received an additional \$15,000 over last year's \$100,000 grant. HCPD's auto theft programs have been greatly enhanced thanks to the grant money. In fact, 2004 data shows that the department has decreased the number of cars stolen in Howard County by 50 percent since 1995, the first year of the grant. *By PFC Jennifer Reidy*

New Animal Control Facility Near Completion

With most of the renovations completed, the new animal control facility will be opening later this month. Employees recently moved into the administration side of the building as one of the three temporary trailers were moved out of the parking lot. Animals, volunteers and equipment will move in to the new building in the next few weeks. The new facility, which has significantly more space than the old one, will hopefully open by the end of the month. As part of the final phase of the project, the outside of the facility and land will undergo improvements to include new curbs and parking surface, and grading of the site, which should be completed by the end of September.

In March of last year renovations to the more than 20-year-old Animal Control Facility began. The project included doubling the size of the facility, with the addition of an education and training room, quarantine area, visiting area and additional kennels for the county's animals. Since that time animal control officers, animals and more than 80 volunteers have been operating out of temporary trailers. *By PFC David Proulx*

New Arrivals to the HCPD Family

The police department recently welcomed new members to the HCPD family:

Karl and Debbie Shoffler are the proud parents of Colby Marshall, who arrived June 6, weighing 5 lbs. 11oz.

Edward and Jennifer Thatcher have a new baby girl, Sydney Alexandra. Sydney was born on June 28, weighing 9 lbs. 10 oz.

Congratulations to Marc Carneal and his wife Stacey on the arrival of Katelyn Grace. Katelyn entered the world on July 15 weighing 8 lbs. 11oz.

On July 22, David and Liz Patterson became the proud parents of an 8 lb. 5 oz. baby boy, James David. Congratulations to all!



Retirees' Beat from Lt. Timothy Branning, Retired, HCPD

Get well wishes to **Denny Laumann** who recently spent time in the hospital. Get well wishes also to **Karen Monroe**, wife of former officer **Harry Monroe** and herself a former employee at HCPD.

Jimmy and Barb Dawson are preparing to make their move to South Carolina. Barb, who is recovering from recent surgery, will be moving to their new home in August. JD will stay in Maryland until September taking care of last minute details.

Steve Keller reports that **Marty Gavin** recently spent some time vacationing with him on the OBX. Both retirees were surprised to meet up with retired Corporal **Linda Freeman** on the parking lot of the Whale-head Club in Duck. Linda and her hubby **Christian**, have a new home at the Kerrituck Club on the OBX.

Congratulations to retired Corporal **Sam Hammond** on his selection as the Howard County Sheriff's Office Deputy of the Year for 2004. Sam is assigned to the Warrant Section at the Sheriff's Office. Sam's supervisor, Charlie Gable, is also retired from HCPD.

Al Hafner recently spent several weeks in Alaska. Al brought his photos from the trip to the last Association meeting and they are truly magnificent.

Kristy Rutledge, daughter of retired Corporal **Rudy Rutledge**, recently departed HCPD for a position with the Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Office. Kristy, who spent six years at HCPD, was assigned to the Warrant/Fugitive Section. She will be performing similar duties with Queen Anne's County. Rudy, who retired from HCPD in 2002, is currently an investigator with the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration.

Congratulations to **Maurice and Carole Miller**! Officer **Wendy Miller**, their daughter, recently completed

her field training and graduated from the HCPD Academy.

How many of you remember Ray Allen Minnick? Who doesn't remember the countless hours of surveillance, the extra precautions we took on robbery alarms after Minnick tried to kill HCPD Officer **Roger Gleason**. Minnick committed an armed robbery in Ellicott City minutes earlier when Gleason attempted to stop his vehicle. A short chase ensued, ending with a bail-out on Ridge Road. Minnick fired multiple shots at Gleason, who quickly backed his vehicle from the kill zone to escape injury. A manhunt failed to locate Minnick, who kidnapped two Ellicott City residents during his overnight efforts to flee the area. Minnick was eventually apprehended during surveillance at a car show in Carlisle, Pa. He was convicted in federal court for armed robbery, and in Howard County for attempted murder and kidnapping. Minnick recently completed his federal sentence, and was returned to Maryland to serve his time for the Howard County offenses. Ironically, it was retired HCPD Officer **Sam Hammond**, now a Deputy with the HC Sheriff's Office, that assisted in the extradition. Roger Gleason currently resides in Arizona and is employed in the transportation security field.

The 2004 HCPD Annual Report has been released. The report is available on the HCPD web site at www.hcpd.org. Once at the site, click on "Crime Statistics/Maps" to get to the report. This is an excellent way to stay in touch with the year-to-year changes at HCPD.

Remember, the Association has a page on the police officers union web site. Go to <http://www.hcpoa.com>. Once at the site, click-on the button for retired officers. Stay informed; check the site!

We've Moved!

**Howard County's
Domestic Violence Center**
5457 Twin Knolls Road, Suite 310
Columbia, 21045
Phone: 410-997-0304
Fax: 410-997-2272



**Howard County Police
Department's Youth Section**
3525 Ellicott Mills Dr. Suite #G
Ellicott City, 21043
Phone: 410-313-2620
Fax: 410-313-2611

13th Annual Howard County Police Pace, Sept. 18



The Howard County Police Department will host the 14th annual Howard County "Police Pace" 5K Race and One Mile Walk/Run at Centennial Park on Sept. 18.

Proceeds from the event, which is sponsored by the Howard County Police Foundation, benefit a number of charitable initiatives, including a college scholarship program to

honor officers who have given their lives in the line of duty in Howard County. The scholarship program ensures that the children of fallen guardians can receive a good education.

The Foundation also sponsors educational scholarships and awards, including one to a Howard County high school senior each year. In addition, the Foundation offers support services to officers and their families whenever tragedy strikes.

Individual registration is \$20 and includes an event t-shirt and lunch. Family registration is \$35 and includes entry for all immediate family members in same household, as well as two event t-shirts and two meals. Participants can register on-line at www.policpace.com. Registrants will have the opportunity to win raffle prizes, including a mountain bike courtesy of Princeton Sports and Travel, overnight hotel stays, free dinners, golf outings and more.

The event also will include a children's entertainment area and displays of Howard County police equipment, including the police helicopter, police cars, police motorcycles, K-9 and tactical team. *By Sherry Llewellyn*



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